

REMARKS

Amendment summary

Claims 1, 2, and 11 are amended to further clarify that the non-linoleum material is in the form of a solution, paste, suspension, or dispersion.

No new matter is added by this Amendment, and Applicants respectfully submit that entry of this Amendment is proper.

Status of the claims

Claims 1-3, 6-9, 17, 19, 21, and 23 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over Markmann et al. (DE 199 15 868) in view of Humphreys et al. (U.S. Patent No. 1,873,587) (hereinafter “Markmann” and “Humphreys,” respectively). Claims 4, 10, 18, 20, 22, 24, 26, and 28 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Markmann and Humphreys, further in view of Egleson (U.S. Patent No. 1,691,708) (hereinafter “Egleson”). In addition, Claims 11-14 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over Markmann in view of Humphreys and Stroppiana (U.S. Patent No. 5,217,554).

Response to claim rejections based on Markmann

Applicants respectfully traverse the rejections based on Markmann because the cited references fail to disclose or suggest the presently recited non-linoleum material in the form of a solution, paste, suspension or dispersion. Applicants note that the Advisory Action indicated that the previous claims did not require that the non-linoleum material material is in the form of a solution, paste, suspension, or dispersion. Applicants respectfully disagree with the Examiner’s

characterization of the claims, but to further prosecution, Applicants have amended the present claims. Accordingly, for the reasons set forth in the Amendment of August 27, 2010, Applicants respectfully submit that the present claims are not anticipated or rendered obvious by the cited references.

Conclusion

In view of the above, reconsideration and allowance of this application are now believed to be in order, and such actions are hereby solicited. If any points remain in issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,

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